

## ***Editorial***

### ***Iberoamerican NMR Meetings***

The progress of NMR research in Brazil has been improved by the participation of several international NMR specialists in all the events organized by AUREMN. During the last 10 years we have obtained a special participation of the Portuguese and Spanish NMR communities in congresses in Brazil, a fact that has a strong influence on the Brazilian NMR research groups.

This process started with the participation of Carlos Geraldes and Margarida de Castro in the 7<sup>th</sup> Brazilian NMR Users Meeting in 1999. At that time, when we met them at that meeting, and after several conversations and exchanges of information, we decided to establish a close collaboration with the Portuguese NMR community. This was accomplished by organizing the First Portuguese-Brazilian NMR Meeting in parallel with the 8<sup>th</sup> Brazilian NMR Users Meeting in Brazil in 2001. That meeting led to the organization of the Second Portuguese-Brazilian NMR Meeting in Sintra, Portugal, in 2003. The meeting in Sintra allowed a close contact between the Brazilian and Portuguese NMR communities with the Spanish one, leading to the organization of the First Iberoamerican NMR Meeting in Brazil in 2005, which was a very successful meeting. As a consequence the Second Iberoamerican NMR Meeting was organized in Tarragona, together with the Euromar in 2007. In 2009 we will have the Third Iberoamerican NMR Meeting in Angra dos Reis, having the participation of many people from Spain, Portugal, Chile, Argentina and Colombia.

These events lead to the establishment of several scientific collaborations between groups of Brazil with Portugal and Spain, this being a result that will certainly increase in the future years.

One important point considering the Iberoamerican NMR Meetings is the need to help some countries from Latin America to start their growth on NMR research. Several countries like Bolivia, Paraguay, Peru and Ecuador do not have any installed and functioning NMR spectrometer. Their research in chemistry is usually focused mainly in natural product chemistry, where NMR is a fundamental tool, and they usually depend completely from the collaboration with research groups in other countries, like Spain and France, to determine the structures of the isolated natural products. I believe that it is a responsibility of AUREMN to help these countries to obtain training in NMR and NMR spectrometers in order to have independence on the structure elucidation processes. Helping whoever needs our assistance is a fundamental activity of AUREMN, especially because one of the most important activities of scientists and scientific organizations in Brazil is to collaborate with the human and scientific development in Latin America. Our Iberoamerican Meetings have an impact on NMR development in South America, but we need to increase our activities on this objective by organizing scientific meetings, workshops and courses on NMR in other countries, something that AUREMN knows how to do quite well. We just need to do it.

***José Daniel Figueroa Villar***  
Chief Editor